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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Philippines

SUBJECT Port Information, Tacloban

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Approach

1. Tacloban is a Customs Port of Entry situated on the west shore at the head of San Pedro Bay, and is 11°15.2' N - 124°59.8' E. (Coast and Geodetic Charts 4420, 4423, and 4464 are recommended for use.) As of 20 Sept 54, the following were controlling factors in entering and clearing this port:
  - a. 18' is the maximum allowable draft for vessels entering or leaving this port.
  - b. As the entrance channel buoys are not lighted, the vessel must arrive in time to make the complete bar transit in daylight hours.
  - c. 565' off and at right angles from the end of the berth at Tacloban is a 16' shoal. This shoal makes up to this depth in such a manner as to allow only 460' of safe maneuvering space off the end of the dock. The whole bay is shoal and encumbered with islets, reefs, shoals, and fish traps. Exceptional caution, therefore, should be used in entering and proceeding to the pilot station.

Anchorage

2. If bound for Tacloban pier or Anibong pier, vessels should anchor off Egbert Shoal and await pilot. If not bound for the piers, good anchorage will be found in the vicinity of Dio Islet in five or six fathoms, mud bottom. The anchorage is well protected, excepting from the South, and the piers are well protected on all sides. The dredged channel from Dio Islet to Tacloban is constantly silting, and the channel is very narrow.

Wharf

3. The wharf at Tacloban is a government-owned, concrete structure, 1200 feet long

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- 2 -

and 50 feet wide. However, it is liable to silt badly if not kept dredged. The Anibong Point pier is wooden and privately owned. It is in such bad condition that vessels no longer use it.

Export Items

4. Copra and hemp are the principal items of export.

Warehouses

5. Numerous warehouses, owned by the shippers, are situated within a short radius of the Tacloban Wharf, with capacities as follows:
- a. Columbian Rope Company, 800, 1000, and 1200 ton capacity;
  - b. Cia Gral de Tabacos, 650 and 1500 ton capacity;
  - c. Pacific Copra Export Company, 850 and 1500 ton capacity;
  - d. International Trading Corporation, 650 and 1400 ton capacity;
  - e. Procter and Gamble Trading Company, 3800 ton capacity.

Labor

6. Labor is supplied locally, and the rate of loading averages 14 tons copra per gang hour. Copra sometimes is loaded from ship's side and lighters are obtained from other sources, as required.

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